

## LOT'S WIFE

When the angel announced that the city  
would be destroyed and all who looked back  
punished,

she packed and swept and scrubbed for days,  
leaving the house better than she  
found it.

Then she went with the others to the brow  
of the last hill where she took one last,  
lovely breath and held it  
forever.

No one knows why. It is sexy to think that  
she could not trudge toward Jehovahville  
without one last look at Sodom  
where she had taken them on  
three at a time.

It is not so sexy to think that she was  
as faithful to her husband as his feet  
but because she was a woman without  
a name

because she saw the future, like a meal of rinds  
and peels, as too much more of  
not enough,

she went under as surely as one takes  
a horde of Valium or turns the family car  
toward the stern rail.

It is not so sexy to think that,  
but it explains more about then

and now.